



Montana Crop & Livestock Reporter

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HIGHLIGHTS

November Egg Production
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November Egg Production Down 1 Percent

U.S. egg production totaled 7.51 billion during November 2007, down 1 percent from last year. Production included 6.42 billion table eggs, and 1.09 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.02 billion were broiler-type and 66 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during November 2007 averaged 343 million, down 1 percent from last year. November egg production per 100 layers was 2,190 eggs, up 1 percent from November 2006.

All layers in the U.S. on December 1, 2007 totaled 343 million, down 2 percent from last year. The 343 million layers consisted of 284 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 56.0 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.83 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on December 1, 2007, averaged 73.1 eggs per 100 layers, up slightly from December 1, 2006.

Egg-type chicks hatched during November 2007 totaled 34.0 million, up 8 percent from November 2006. Eggs in incubators totaled 35.9 million on December 1, 2007, up 7 percent from a year ago.

Domestic placements of egg-type pullet chicks for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 281 thousand during November 2007, up 36 percent from November 2006.

Broiler-type chicks hatched during November 2007 totaled 761 million, up 4 percent from November 2006. Eggs in incubators totaled 678 million on

December 1, 2007, up 4 percent from a year earlier.

Leading breeders placed 7.44 million broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during November 2007, down 2 percent from November 2006.

U.S. Cattle on Feed Up 1 Percent

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 12.1 million head on December 1, 2007. The inventory was 1 percent above December 1, 2006 and 3 percent above December 1, 2005. This is the highest December 1 inventory since the series began in 1996.

Placements in feedlots during November totaled 2.12 million, 12 percent above 2006 and 3 percent above 2005. Net placements were 2.06 million head. During November, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 685,000, 600-699 pounds were 650,000, 700-799 pounds were 420,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 361,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during November totaled 1.74 million, 3 percent below 2006 but 2 percent above 2005. Other disappearance totaled 57,000 during November, 31 percent below 2006 and 37 percent below 2005.

November 2007 Red Meat Production

Montana slaughter plants produced 1.4 million pounds, dressed weight, of red meat during November 2007. Red meat production was down 6 percent from October 2007 and 25 percent below November 2006.

Cattle slaughtered statewide totaled 1,700 head, which was 700 head below a year ago. The average live weight, at 1,139 pounds, was down 6 pounds from 2006. During November there were

1,300 hogs slaughtered in Montana, 300 head below a year ago. The average live weight, at 256 pounds, was unchanged from 2006. The number of sheep slaughtered, at 300 head, was 100 head below the previous year. The average live weight was up 9 pounds from last year to 97 pounds.

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.30 billion pounds in November, up 4 percent from the 4.15 billion pounds produced in November 2006.

Beef production, at 2.23 billion pounds, was slightly above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.83 million head, down slightly from November 2006. The average live weight was up 9 pounds from the previous year, at 1,304 pounds.

Veal production totaled 10.1 million pounds, 22 percent below November a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 58,900 head, down 12 percent from November 2006. The average live weight was down 36 pounds from last year, at 291 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.05 billion pounds, up 8 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 10.1 million head, up 7 percent from November 2006. The average live weight was unchanged from the previous year, at 272 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 16.1 million pounds, was up 5 percent from November 2006. Sheep slaughter totaled 236,700 head, 6 percent above last year. The average live weight was 136 pounds, down 1 pound from November a year ago.

January to November 2007 commercial red meat production was 44.6 billion pounds, up 2 percent from 2006. Accumulated beef production was up 1 percent from last year, veal was down 5 percent, pork was up 4 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 1 percent.

December 1 Potato Stocks

The 13 major potato States held 270 million cwt of potatoes in storage December 1, 2007, up 4 percent from last year and 6 percent above December 1, 2005. Potatoes in storage account for 68 percent of the 2007 fall storage States' production, up 1 percentage point from last year. Klamath Basin stocks total 4.20 million cwt on December 1, 2007, up 5 percent from last year. Klamath Basin includes California and Klamath County, Oregon potato stocks.

Disappearance of 130 million cwt from the start of harvest to December 1, is virtually unchanged from last year but up 8 percent from 2005. Shrink and loss, at 13.9 million cwt, is up 5 percent from the previous year and 9 percent above the same date in 2005.

Processors have used 72.0 million cwt of 2007 crop potatoes so far this season, down 3 percent from a year ago but 10 percent above 2 years ago. Idaho and Malheur County, Oregon total processing decreased 3 percent from a year ago, Maine's total processing was 3 percent below the same date in 2006, and Washington and the rest of Oregon total processing was down 6 percent from last season. Dehydrating usage accounts for 12.7

million cwt of the total processing, down 13 percent from last year but 7 percent above the same date in 2005.

Western States held 193 million cwt of potatoes in storage on December 1, up 9 percent from last year and 8 percent above 2005. Idaho's potato stocks are up 4 percent from last year, Washington's potato sheds held 22 percent more than last year, and Oregon's stocks increased 13 percent from last season. Montana's potato sheds held 9 percent more stocks than last year and California's potato stocks increased 11 percent from last season. Colorado's potato stocks declined 12 percent from last year.

Central States accounted for 61.7 million cwt of potato stocks on December 1, down 4 percent from last year but 3 percent above the same date in 2005. Wisconsin's potato stocks declined 5 percent from last year, North Dakotas's sheds held 16 percent less, and potato stocks in Nebraska are 10 percent below last season. Minnesota's potato stocks are up 2 percent from last year and Michigan's potato sheds held 17 percent more than on the same date in 2006.

Eastern States stored 15.5 million cwt of potatoes on December 1, down 11 percent from last year but up 1 percent from December 1, 2005. Maine's

potato sheds held 12 percent less than last year, while New York's potato stocks declined 7 percent from a year ago.

2007 Fall Potato Production

Production of fall potatoes for 2007 is forecast at 409 million cwt, up less than 1 percent from last month and 3 percent above last year. Area harvested, at 997,600 acres, is virtually unchanged from November but up 1 percent from last year. The average yield is forecast at 410 cwt per acre, up 1 cwt from last month and 4 cwt above the record high set last year.

Western States production is forecast at 288 million cwt, up 6 percent from last year. Area harvested, at 642,000 acres, increased 4 percent from last year, and the average yield of 449 cwt per acre is up 6 cwt from 2006. Idaho's yield is forecast at 377 cwt per acre. If realized this would be the second highest yield on record, 9 cwt below the record yield set in 2006. Hot weather during the summer reduced the quality of the crop. Incidences of the Potato Virus Y were more frequent than normal which adversely affected yields. (continued on page three)

Fall Potatoes Production and Stocks , 13 Major States, December 1, 2006-2007

State	2006 Crop			2007 Crop		
	Production	Stocks Dec 1, 2006	Percent of Production	Production	Stocks Dec 1, 2007	Percent of Production
	1,000 cwt		pct	1,000 cwt		pct
CA	3,870	1,800	47	4,223	2,000	47
CO	22,686	17,200	76	20,981	15,200	72
ID	128,915	90,000	70	131,650	94,000	71
ME	17,980	14,400	80	16,530	12,700	77
MI	14,190	8,100	57	14,700	9,500	65
MN	20,400	13,300	65	20,680	13,500	65
MT	3,518	3,300	94	3,696	3,600	97
NE	8,730	5,800	66	7,800	5,200	67
NY	5,700	3,000	53	5,216	2,800	54
ND	25,480	17,300	68	23,660	14,500	61
OR	18,533	16,000	86	20,238	18,000	89
WA	89,900	49,000	55	102,300	60,000	59
WI	29,370	20,100	68	28,160	19,000	67
13 States	389,272	259,300	67	399,834	270,000	68

1/ Stocks include processor holdings and most of the seed to plant following year's crop. Seed usage for all seasons in 2007 totaled 26.4 million cwt. 2/ Includes potato stocks in CA and Klamath Co. OR.

2007 Fall Potato Production

In Washington, harvest progressed normally this year. The quality of the crop is acceptable but not as good as in previous years. In Colorado, a severe wind storm followed by a late freeze in mid-June damaged plants that were already emerged. The earlier planted crop was slow to recover from the damage, leading to increased yield variability. Oregon's crop progressed at a normal pace with no major problems reported. In California, favorable weather conditions resulted in excellent crop quality and yields.

Central States production is forecast at 96.0 million cwt, down 3 percent from last year. Harvested area, at 267,000 acres, is down 4 percent, while the average yield, at 359 cwt per acre, is up 2 cwt from a year ago. Overall, the Wisconsin crop progressed ahead of normal. Growers reported a good quality crop with harvest completed on time or early.

In North Dakota, crop condition was rated fair to good throughout the growing season. Michigan and Minnesota's yields are forecast at 350 and 440 cwt per acre, respectively. If realized, these would be record high yields.

Eastern States production is forecast at 24.9 million cwt, down 9 percent from last year. Area for harvest totaled

88,600 acres, 3 percent below last year, while the average yield, at 281 cwt per acre, is down 18 cwt from last season. In Maine, excellent growing and harvesting conditions resulted in a high yielding, high quality crop.

In Massachusetts and Rhode Island, above average temperatures and below average precipitation forced growers in many locations to irrigate. New York planted acreage is at the lowest level since estimates began in 1929. (see table on back page)

Montana 2007 Hog Inventory

The inventory of all hogs and pigs in Montana on December 1, 2007 was 180,000 head, unchanged from a year ago. Breeding stock was unchanged at 18,000 head and market hog numbers were unchanged at 162,000 head.

There were 33,500 sows farrowed in Montana during the December 2006 through November 2007 season, down 1 percent from a year ago. The number of pigs per litter increased 5 percent to 10.06 and resulted in an annual pig crop of 337,000 head, a 4 percent increase from last year.

U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on December 1, 2007 was 65.1 million head. This was up 4 percent from December 1, 2006, but down 1 percent from September 1, 2007. Breeding inventory, at 6.16 million head, was up 1 percent from last year, and up

slightly from the previous quarter. Market hog inventory, at 59.0 million head, was up 5 percent from last year, but down 1 percent from last quarter.

The September-November 2007 pig crop, at 28.0 million head, was up 4 percent from 2006 and up 7 percent from 2005. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 3.03 million head, up 3 percent from 2006 and up 4 percent from 2005. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 49 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was 9.24 for the September-November 2007 period, compared to 9.11 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.40 for operations with 1-99 hogs and pigs to 9.30 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

U.S. hog producers intend to have 2.98 million sows farrow during the December 2007–February 2008 quarter, up 2 percent from the actual farrowings during the same period in 2007, and up 5 percent from 2006. Intended farrowings for March–May 2008, at 3.04 million sows, are up slightly from 2007 and up 4 percent from 2006.

The total number of hogs under contract owned by operations with over 5,000 head, but raised by contractees, accounted for 39 percent of the total U.S. hog inventory, up from 38 percent last year.

Hogs & Pigs Inventory December 1, 2005-2007

Fall Potatoes Area Planted, Harvested, Yield, and Production, 13 Major states, 2006-2007

State	Planted		Harvested		Yield		Production	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
	Acres				Cwt		1,000 Cwt	
CA	8.6	8.2	8.6	8.2	450	515	3,870	4,223
CO	59.9	59.2	59.7	59.1	380	355	22,686	20,981
ID	335.0	350.0	334.0	349.0	386	377	128,915	131,650
ME	58.5	57.1	58.0	57.0	310	290	17,980	16,530
MI	43.5	42.5	43.0	42.0	330	350	14,190	14,700
MN	51.0	50.0	48.0	4730	425	440	20,400	20,680
MT	10.6	11.3	10.5	11.2	335	330	3,518	3,696
NE	19.5	20.5	19.4	20.0	450	390	8,730	7,800
NY	20.6	19.0	19.0	18.3	300	285	5,700	5,216
ND	100.0	97.0	98.0	91.0	260	260	25,480	23,660
OR	35.0	36.5	35.0	36.5	530	554	18,533	20,238
WA	156.0	165.0	155.0	165.0	580	620	89,900	102,300
WI	66.0	64.5	66.0	64.0	445	440	29,370	28,160
Total	993.7	1,010.8	983.0	997.6	406	410	398,921	409,221

November Milk Production up 3.8 Percent

Milk production in the 23 major States during November totaled 13.8 billion pounds, up 3.8 percent from November 2006. October production,

unrevised at 14.2 billion pounds, was up 4.1 percent from October 2006.

Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,654 pounds for November, 40 pounds above November 2006.

The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.36 million head, 101,000 head more than November 2006, and 8,000 head more than October 2007.

COMING IN THE NEXT REPORTER

Ag Prices Received
Hay Stocks
Winter Wheat Seedings
Grain Stocks

Late Season Pulse Production
Late Season Oilseed Production

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